
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE
STATE COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM TO
IDENTIFY ISSUES AND PROBLEMS AND PROPOSE INITIATIVES TO
IMPROVE THE SYSTEM.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Health is responsible for
2 administering and maintaining the State Comprehensive Emergency
3 Medical Services System by planning, coordinating, and providing
4 assistance to all public and private entities and agencies
5 involved in the state system, and ensuring that all emergency
6 medical services or ambulance services conducted by or under the
7 authorization of the Department of Health or any county are
8 consistent with part XVIII, chapter 321, Hawaii Revised
9 Statutes; and

10
11 WHEREAS, the State Comprehensive Emergency Medical Services
12 System provides for the arrangement of personnel, facilities,
13 and equipment, primarily in the pre-hospital setting, for the
14 effective and coordinated delivery of health care services under
15 emergency conditions, irrespective of the cause of the emergency
16 conditions; and

17
18 WHEREAS, the State Comprehensive Emergency Medical Services
19 System provides personnel, personnel training, communications,
20 emergency transportation, facilities, coordination with
21 emergency medical and critical care services, coordination and
22 use of available public safety agencies, promotion of consumer
23 participation, accessibility to care, mandatory standard medical
24 recordkeeping, consumer information and education, independent
25 review and evaluation, disaster linkage, mutual aid agreements,
26 and other components necessary to meet the purposes of the state
27 comprehensive system; and

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29 WHEREAS, the Department of Health is responsible for
30 establishing standards for emergency medical services, an



1 emergency medical services system consistent with the State
2 Comprehensive Emergency Medical Services System and applicable
3 federal guidelines for those services, and regulation of
4 ambulances within the State, including the certification of
5 vehicles, equipment, supplies, and communication systems; and
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7 WHEREAS, the State Emergency Medical Services Advisory
8 Committee is administratively attached to the Department of
9 Health and serves the Department in an advisory capacity on all
10 matters relating to the State Comprehensive Emergency Medical
11 Services System; and
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13 WHEREAS, in consultation with the State Emergency Medical
14 Services Advisory Committee, the Department of Health is
15 responsible for determining the levels of emergency medical
16 services that are implemented in each county; and
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18 WHEREAS, the Department of Health is authorized to contract
19 to provide emergency medical services, including emergency
20 aeromedical services, or any necessary component of a county
21 emergency services system in accordance with the State
22 Comprehensive Emergency Medical Services System; and
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24 WHEREAS, the Department of Health is responsible for
25 establishing reasonable fees for services rendered to the public
26 by the Department of Health, any county, or private agency; and
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28 WHEREAS, to fulfill the duties of the Emergency Medical
29 Services and Injury Prevention System Branch, it is imperative
30 that the Department of Health strive to ensure that the State
31 Comprehensive Emergency Medical Services System is efficiently
32 maintained and effectively provides emergency services; and
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34 WHEREAS, the Department of Health has been in discussions
35 with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)
36 to obtain the NHTSA's services to perform a review of the state
37 system, including both state and county components, which will
38 be the first such review since 1991; now, therefore,
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40 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
41 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of
42 Representatives concurring, that the Department of Health is



1 requested to conduct a study on the State Comprehensive
2 Emergency Medical Services System to identify issues and
3 problems and propose initiatives to improve the system; and
4

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
6 requested to submit a report to the Legislature no later than
7 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
8 2020 that includes:
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10 (1) Findings and recommendations, including any proposed
11 legislation, associated with its study of the State
12 Comprehensive Emergency Medical Services System; and
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14 (2) An update to the Legislature on the outcome, findings,
15 and other relevant information obtained as a result of
16 the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
17 review; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.

